

BALTIMORE GUNNER CRACK TARGET SHOT

Lester German, Former Ball Player, Averages 95 Per Cent at Traps

That much-mooted question that is heard at sporting writers time and again, "What becomes of the ball player of a possible day, is again with us. Ordinarily, they retire to the everyday life or working in some commercial field other than the national pastime.

Lester German, former New York Giant pitcher, is one ball player who has blazed a trail in his profession, following a job of years on the diamond. German became a shooter after the war years ago, and has risen to the front ranks as one of the country's best marksmen.

German hails from Aberdeen, Md. He has made his home in Baltimore, The Oriole wing shot has averaged 95 per cent for his shooting for several years, which easily ranks him among the foremost gunners of the age. German has traveled around the eastern States year in and year out, shooting at 7000 to 10,000 clay birds per annum under all sorts of conditions, and his record of smashing all but 5 per cent of them is clearly demonstrative of his marksmanship ability.

The Maryland wing shot hits his target with a precision that has earned him the nickname "Long Run" German. The most startling performance of Lester was at Atlantic City in the big West Virginia annual annual, which was without a miss. This feat alone proved his mastery skill with the scatter shot weapon. For the program of 600 targets at that tournament, German's steady aim was responsible for the scoring of 617 of that quota.

Maryland is proud of German, for he has added much to that State's prestige by winning honors all over the country. In 1917 the former national pastime has done remarkable work at the traps. He had 11 runs of fifty targets straight. Nineteen were 100 per cent breaks of 100, while Lester's high mark was 130 breaks at Baltimore on June 7.

If four men were picked to represent the United States in an international match with England, France or Italy, it is almost a positive fact that Lester German would be one of the first named on the list for the Statesmen.

UP-STATE WING SHOT AFTER STATE TITLE

Johnny Rehrig, of Reading, Wants Crack at Billy Clegg's Crown

Billy Clegg, of this city, who last Saturday won the Pennsylvania State live-bird championship from Davy Paul, also a native of the Quaker City, is the target of challenges these days. Clegg has been a champion of gunners abouting for a match, but a chance at Clegg's newly acquired title no one has been more boisterous than Johnny Rehrig, of Reading. Right after Clegg annexed the Keystone State honor, the Pretzel town wing shot challenged Clegg.

As the Pennsylvania live-bird shooting championship is of a challenge sort, the challenge must be written "dead" to the titleholder, with \$25 to bind the match. So far Rehrig, of Reading, has failed to send a letter accompanied with the \$25 to Clegg.

It is said the up-state wing shot is certain that the Reading shot, the Philadelphia in a twenty-five-bird contest, which is the number of feathered targets in a titular event. New Year's Day found both Clegg and Rehrig shooting in the holiday test of the Spring Valley Country Club at Reading. About forty pigeon wing shots competed, and neither Clegg nor Rehrig was high gun. P. Dinger, of Harrisburg, won the title with a total of nineteen straight. Rehrig secured seventeen of his quota of nineteen fliers trapped, against sixteen for Clegg.

It is said Fred Toney, who triumphed in the big Reading shoot, desires to meet Billy Clegg in a trap for his title. When Clegg is engaged in a battle where his championship is at stake it is said he will be ready to meet Rehrig. It is said that Clegg is shooting over the fifteen or twenty-five bird route in a test where there are ten to twenty gunners competing. He can generally be found on an evening in the Reading traps. In winning the championship less than a week ago from Davy Paul at Manoa, Clegg collected twenty-three of his quota of twenty-five birds in a trap, and was blowing around zero and a heavy gate blowing.

HUGGINS STILL HOPEFUL Pratt Deal Off He Hopes to Land Other Players

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—With the deal for Gerrit Pratt, of the St. Louis Browns, temporarily off and no other player deals to announce at present, Miller Huggins, the new manager of the Yankees, is reported to be in New York today after a hurried trip to New York to confer with President Jacob Ruppert. "I should like to have landed Pratt," said Huggins today, "but at present there is no chance of a deal in sight. I hope to make a deal or two before the season starts, however, and will endeavor to strengthen the club in several spots."

Fred Toney Sure to Go

SANHILLE, Tenn., Jan. 5.—Fred Toney, pitcher of the Cincinnati League club, who recently was attracted by Federal forces here on the charge of espionage, is believed to have fled to a local ex-convict house, it is reported.

Boxing Club Program Called Off

The boxing program scheduled for the National Athletic Club, has been called off by the management. Security for the accompanying of the participating club is considered for postponement of events announced.

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